

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 ITC-01 /079 W

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R 081440Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9192

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIGAO

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, ETRD

SUBJECT: ANDEAN PACT: COMMISSION NAMES NEW JUNTA, RECESSES

REF: LIMA 2027

1. ON MARCH 3, AFTER SIX DAYS IN SESSION, THE ANDEAN PACT COMMISSION, MEETING AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL, SUCCEEDED IN ELECTING THE THREE NEW JUNTA MEMBERS, BUT SUSPENDED FURTHER EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE INTEGRATION CRISIS UNTIL MARCH 17-18.

2. THE NEW JUNTA MEMBERS ARE LUIS BARANDIARAM PAGADOR (PERUVIAN), JESUS ALBERTO FERNANDEZ (VENEZUELAN), AND RAFAEL GARCIA VELASCO (ECUADOREAN). THEY WILL REPLACE THE PRESENT JUNTA, WHOSE TERM EXPIRES MARCH 31, DURING THE FIRST DAYS OF APRIL. THE NEW JUNTA, IN TURN, WILL NAME A NEW SECRETARY GENERAL TO REPLACE JAVIER SILVA RUETE (PERUVIAN), WHO HAD ANNOUNCED HIS RESIGNATION (LIMA 1324).

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3. THE NEW PERUVIAN MEMBER OF THE JUNTA, GEN BARANDIARAN (AIR FORCE, RETIRED), HAS SERVED IN THE PAST AS MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND AS HEAD OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE OF INTEGRATION (ONIT) IN PERU. THE VENEZUELAN MEMBER, FERNANDEZ, IS REPORTEDLY A RESPECTED ECONOMIST WHO IS SERVING AS HEAD OF THE GOV INSTITUTE OF FOREIGN TRADE, WHILE THE ECUDOREAN NAMED TO THE NEW JUNTA, GARCIA VELASCO, IS A FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER AND REPORTEDLY SERVED TWICE AS ECUADOR'S AMBASSADOR TO PERU.

4. EMBASSY ECON COUN DISCUSSED COMMISSION MEETING WITH OUTGOING SECRETARY GENERAL SILVA RUETE, WHO (THOUGH HE WAS CONSIDERED BY SOME TO BE A CANDIDATE FOR THE JUNTA) HAD NOTHING BUT PRAISE FOR THE HIGH PROFESSIONAL CALIBER OF THE NEWLY-ELECTED JUNTA. THIS VIEW WAS SHARED BY OUTGOING JUNTA MEMBER DR. GERMANICO SALGADO (ECUADOR) IN A SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH ECON COUN. BOTH OFFICIALS SEEMED SLIGHTLY DISAPPOINTED THAT COMMISSION HAD NOT MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN INTEGRATION ISSUES (SEE LIMA 1324 AND PREVIOUS), BUT EXPRESSED HOPE THAT MINISTERIAL-LEVEL COMMISSION RECONVENING MARCH 17 WOULD MAKE SOME PROGRESS ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES.

5. IN THIS REGARD, SILVA RUETE BELIEVES THAT ECUADOR WILL BE REPRESENTED BY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, COLOMBIA BY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT, VENEZUELA AND BOLIVIA BY FINANCE MINISTERS, AND PERU BY ADMIRAL JORGE DUBOIS GERVASI (NAVY), WHO AS ONIT HEAD HOLDS CABINET RANK. ONLY QUESTION-MARK ON REPRESENTATION ISSUE IS CHILE, WHICH, EMB OFF GATHERED, IS CONSIDERED BY PACT OFFICIALS TO HAVE POSED THE GREATEST DIFFICULTIES DURING THE RECENT MEETINGS.

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